(b) if so, whether the allegations have been enquired into and if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether the issue of wheat in the open market has contained the rise in prices of wheat; if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) the quantity of wheat issued to the roller flour mills and in the open market from May, 1996 to date in Delhi and in Haryana and the procedure adopted in the sale thereof; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to review the policy of sale of wheat in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Some complaints with regard to irregularities allegedly committed by the employees of the Food Corporation of India in the open sale of wheat were received. Complaints, which were of verifiable nature, were investigated. As a result of these investigations, major penalty chargesheets were issued to 3 category-I officers and 4 category-III officials. One category-I officer, one category-II officer and 3 category-III officials have been placed under suspension. One category-I officer and one category-II officer were shifted to non-sensitive posts, who were found responsible for flouting the instructions issued by the FCI Headquarters.

Besides this, 2 category-II and 2 Category-III officials of FCI were arrested by the police and criminal case registered against them. CBI has also registered a RC bearing No. 45/96-CHD dated 4.9.1996 for thorough probe.

(c) The Wholesale Price Index of Wheat (WPI) was 285.4 in March, 1996 and the WPI registered a fall in April and May, 1996. However, thereafter, it began to rise every month and had gone upto 322.5 in September, 1996 and 332.2 in October, 1996.

Issue of limited quantity of wheat in open sale did have a sobering effect on prices. However, the market prices of wheat have increased because of lean season and lesser availability of wheat in the market.

(d) The quantity of wheat issued to Roller Flour Mills (RFMs) and in the open market from May, 1996 to October, 1996 in Delhi and Haryana Regions, was as follows:—

(Figures in MT)

Sl. No.	Region	RFMs	Open market (inclusive of stock issued to RFMs)
1.	Delhi	14,050	41,860
2.	Haryana	85,650	1,82,320

Till August, 1996 procedure generally followed in selection of purchasers was based on the principle of "first-cum-first-served." Government reviewed the procedure of open sale and issued revised guidelines on 26.8.1996. They include selection of allottees by a Three-Member Committee at the FCI regional level on proper identification of the intending purchasers.

(e) The policy of sale of wheat in the open market is reviewed from time to time and corrective measures are taken as and when considered necessary.

Beneficiaries under the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes

*156. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families benefited under the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(b) the details regarding allocation of funds to the State Governments and Union Territories under the Special Component Plan for the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) The number of families benefited is as under:—

(In lakhs)

Year	No. of SC families benefited
1993-94	23.24
1994-95	26.96
1995-96	24.82

(b) The details of Special Component Plan allocations are given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1993-94			1994-95			1995-96		
		State Plan out-lay	SCP out-lay	% of SCP to State Plan outlay	State Plan out-lay	SCP out-lay	% of SCP to State Plan outlay	State Plan out-lay	SCP out-lay	% of SCP to State Plan outlay
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1851.00	208.77	11.28	2130.00	284.82	13.37	3159.00	314.90	9.70
2.	Assam	956.16	63.84	6.68	978.83	73.33	7.49	1326.40	98.20	7.40
3.	Bihar	750.00	104.00	14.89	900.00	166.69	18.52	2500.00	470.91	18.83
4.	Goa	170.00	2.20	1.29	182.00	4.25	2.34	210.00	2.86	1.36
5.	Gujarat	1900.00	50.43	4.23	2240.00	78.87	3.52	2610.00	97.19	3.72
6.	Haryana	920.00	125.33	13.62	1025.50	142.56	13.90	1250.00	486.37	14.91
7.	Himachal Pradesh	564.82	68.75	12.17	650.00	77.86	11.98	750.00	90.25	12.83
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	887.25	50.94	5.74	950.00	54.83	5.77	1050.00	72.63	6.91
9.	Karnataka	3025.00	280.69	9.27	2800.00	303.81	10.85	3575.00	338.79	9.50
10.	Kerala	1003.00	98.07	9.78	1260.00	126.62	10.04	1550.00	142.00	9.16
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2400.00	271.49	11.31	2754.00	310.78	11.28	2900.00	283.16	9.76
12.	Maharashtra	3804.00	196.60	5.17	4400.00	390.28	8.97	5500.00	550.00	10.00
13.	Manipur	253.13	2.82	1.11	214.50	4.35	2.03	300.00	8.91	2.97
14.	Orissa	1450.00	214.53	14.80	1950.00	148.00	7.59	1650.00	178.57	10.82
15.	Punjab	1250.00	195.00	15.60	1450.00	200.07	13.79	1675.00	200.00	11.94
16.	Rajasthan	1704.76	274.35	16.09	2450.00	389.85	15.91	3200.00	487.17	15.22
17.	Sikkim	100.12	5.96	5.95	180.54	8.40	4.67	83.29	7.15	8.58
18.	Tamil Nadu	2102.21	563.61	26.81	2750.75	523.06	19.00	3200.00	612.25	19.30
19.	Tripura	310.00	39.11	12.61	290.00	25.99	8.96	350.00	37.12	10.60
20.	Uttar Pradesh	4250.00	456.91	10.75	4763.00	492.24	10.33	5702.00	880.74	15.40
21.	West Bengal	1550.00	237.13	15.30	1706.00	174.35	10.22	2207.30	278.15	12.60
22.	Chandigarh	80.00	2.34	2.92	80.00	11.12	13.90	100.00	2.47	2.47
23.	Delhi	1075.00	95.75	9.00	1560.00	140.31	9.00	1720.00	149.79	8.71
24.	Pondicherry	108.00	17.53	16.23	135.00	21.94	16.25	175.52	20.52	16.25
	Total	32464.45	3656.15	11.26	37800.12	4154.38	18.99	46743.51	5318.10	11.80

Details of Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan Released to the State

Governments and Union Territories are given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2416.06	3255.36	3425.41
2.	Assam	220.51	273.34	222.55
3.	Bihar	2327.11	-	-
4.	Goa	2.86	3.95	2.09
5.	Gujarat	796.82	956.68	278.90
6.	Haryana	424.53	538.05	623.00
7.	Himachal Pradesh	699.54	195.72	193.63
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	76.33	100.00	83.77
9.	Karnataka	1282.71	1873.76	2350.09
10.	Kerala	402.84	508.81	492.73
11.	Madhya Pradesh	2803.81	2097.57	2425.33
12.	Maharashtra	1562.79	1575.89	1745.47
13.	Manipur	5.56	6.09	5.90
14.	Orissa	1075.66	1332.84	1311.82
15.	Punjab	875.92	1626.72	571.68
16.	Rajasthan	1829.89	887.37	1828.26
17.	Sikkim	3.06	4.22	3.57
18.	Tamil Nadu	1879.11	2655.66	2803.55
19.	Tripura	58.85	100.97	72.26
20.	Uttar Pradesh	5933.29	6297.51	5839.03
21.	West Bengal	2322.75	2813.37	2955.22
22.	Chandigarh	12.39	17.40	14.86
23.	Delhi	184.76	244.42	231.16
24.	Pondicherry	14.81	19.31	19.62
	TOTAL	27211.96	27385.00	27500.90

Decline in Industrial Production

157. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of industrial production during the first and second quarters of 1996-97 has been lower than in the corresponding quarters in 1995-96 on all fronts;

(b) if the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative, the reason or reasons for the decline in output; and

(c) whether employment in the organised industrial sector has also shown a comparable decline in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) As per the latest Index of Industrial Production released by the C.S.O., the overall sectoral growth of Industrial Production in April-July, 1996-97 and the corresponding period in 1995-96 are as follows:—